BIRDING NOTES Compiled by Aasheesh Pittie

This column publishes notes in brief telegraphic form, from **Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Goa, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan & Tamil Nadu** on interesting and significant sightings and behaviour like breeding, feeding, migration, nesting, etc. Notes on threatened birds are also welcome. Their status '*' follows BirdLife International (2001) *Threatened Birds of Asia*. English names, sequence and scientific nomenclature follow Manakadan & Pittie (2002): Standardised English and scientific names of the birds of the Indian Subcontinent. *Newsletter for Birdwatchers* 42(3): i-viii, 1-36. Unless specified, all observations are for 2002. Abbreviations, Contributors, Notes, Regional Referees, *etc.*, are at the end. For selection of breeding criteria 'Probable, Possible, Confirmed', see *Pitta* # 82, February 1998, p. 4.

ANDHRA PRADESH

HYDERABAD DISTRICT

Hyderabad City: Banjara Hills

20.vi (Aasheesh Pittie)**:** ORIENTAL SCOPS OWL 1, blundered into drawing room of residence on a windy night.

Hyderabad City: Sanjivayya Park (Nikhil Narayanaswamy, Vinay N, Prashanth KR, Adhokshaj Katarni, Kiran Katikaneni)

22.vi: ASIAN PIED STARLING CB, 2 N under const; GOLDEN ORIOLE PRB, 1 N under const.; BLACK DRONGO CB 1 N; HOUSE CROW CB, 30 N.

29.vi: WHITE-BREASTED KINGFISHER CB, 1 N in sandbank. Adult seen entering with food.

KURNOOL DISTRICT

Rollapadu Wildlife Sanctuary (C. & Bhargavi Srinivasulu)

9-10.iii: LESSER FLORICAN 1 F.

Rollapadu Wildlife Sanctuary & surrounds (S. Ashok Kumar, JVD Moorty, Raajeev Mathew)

20-22.vi: GREAT INDIAN BUSTARD 4 M, 14 F, CB 1 yng.; LESSER FLORICAN 2 F.

Vipnagandla (C. & Bhargavi Srinivasulu)

9.iii: GREAT INDIAN BUSTARD 2 M, 1 F.

MEDAK DISTRICT

ICRISAT Campus, Patancheru (Tom Hash)

2.iv: SPOT-BILLED PELICAN 1 juv. Subsequently observed for several weeks, feeding in drying pools of ICRISAT tank; BRAHMINY KITE CB, 1 juv.; BROWN CRAKE POB, seen mating; BRONZE-WINGED JACANA CB, ads. & imm.; LITTLE RINGED PLOVER CB, ad. & imm..; INDIAN TREEPIE robbing nest, and eating blue-shelled eggs, of Red-vented Bulbul.

13.iv: GREY FRANCOLIN CB, ads., with downy chicks; several families seen at different parts of the farm this month; CHESTNUT-BELLIED SANDGROUSE M and F; first record inside ICRISAT campus; SIRKEER MALKOHA first record inside ICRISAT campus; HOOPOE CB, one ad., passed food to another who carried it into a crack--missing mortar--between stones in the wall of the Manmool fortress.

RANGAREDDI DISTRICT

Anantgiri (Kiran Katikaneni, Vinay, Zubin)

25.v: CHANGEABLE HAWK-EAGLE CB, 1 N with yng.

GUNTUR DISTRICT

Uppalapadu Heronry (K. Mrutyumjaya Rao)

13.iii: SPOT-BILLED PELICAN CB, 550 including immatures, 120 N; BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON 300; PAINTED STORK CB 400 N, almost all with yng.; PURPLE MOORHEN CB 14 N in *Typha* sp.

VISAKHAPATNAM DISTRICT

Araku (C. & Bhargavi Srinivasulu)

3.iii: ASIAN PIED STARLING.

Damuku (C. & Bhargavi Srinivasulu)

14-16.iii: BLACK EAGLE 7; BLACK-CRESTED BULBUL 3.

Sankrametta (C. & Bhargavi Srinivasulu)

3.iii: BLACK EAGLE 1.

Tyda (C. & Bhargavi Srinivasulu)

2-4.iii: BLACK-CRESTED BULBUL 5; BLUE-HEADED ROCK THRUSH 1.

14-16.iii: CRESTED GOSHAWK 1 M.

GOA

NORTH GOA DISTRICT

Chapora Estuary (Heinz Lainer)

7.ii: WESTERN REEF-EGRET 55+; SLENDER-BILLED GULL 440+.

23.ii: SANDWICH TERN 50+.

9.iv: SLENDER-BILLED GULL 1; GULL-BILLED TERN 106 (39 in br. plm.); COMMON TERN 1 br. plm.

Tivim-Damedem (Heinz Lainer)

16.iii: BESRA SPARROWHAWK POB 1 juv.; LESSER SPOTTED EAGLE 1 juv.

Anjuna (Heinz Lainer)

5.iv: SHIKRA PRB, pair; CRIMSON SUNBIRD 1 M non-br. plm.

SOUTH GOA DISTRICT

Dudhsagar Top (Heinz Lainer)

22-25.iv: NILGIRI WOOD-PIGEON 1; BLUE-BEARDED BEE-EATER 1; WHITE-CHEEKED BARBET CB; SMALL YELLOW-NAPED WOODPECKER 4; INDIAN BLUE ROBIN 1 M; WYNAAD LAUGHINGTHRUSH 5+; INDIAN RUFOUS BABBLER 5+.

ABBREVIATIONS: Ab-abundant; ad-adult/s; br-breeding; C-common/ly; *c.*-approximately; CB-confirmed breeding; CD*-conservation dependent; const-construction/ing; CR*-critical; DD*-data deficient; disp-display/ing; EN*-endangered; F-female; flt-flight; fly-family; freq-frequent/ly; hrd-heard; id-identify/ied; imm-immature; inc-include/ing; Is-Island; juv-juvenile; LM-local migrant; M-male; mat-material; N-nest/ing/s; NT*-near threatened; OH-overhead; POB-possible breeding; PRB-probable breeding; plm-plumage; RF-Reserve Forest; Resp-respectively; Tlk-Taluk; vil-village; VU*-vulnerable; WL-wildlife; yng-young.

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